

An ATM communication apparatus having a buffer memory 11 for storing cells received from each of input lines, a write control unit 13 for writing each of the received cells into the buffer memory so that the cells stored in the buffer memory form cell queues corresponding to connections for each output line, a read control unit 17 for reading out cells from each of the cell queues while guaranteeing a minimum cell rate predetermined for each connection within a range not exceeding a predetermined peak cell rate, and a unit 12 for adding congestion indication to a cell read out from a cell queue of which stored cell amount exceeds a preset threshold.

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